

being obvious over Anderson et al. in view of Sakai '898, Fujita '866 and Mifune et al., USP 4,713,321 (hereinafter referred to as Mifune '321).

Applicants herein incorporate all arguments made previously. Additionally, Applicants are now submitting a Declaration pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.132. The Declaration includes the comparative evidence previously discussed in the June 7, 2001 Amendment. The Declaration further includes additional Comparative evidence.

Review of the Declaration and the arguments therein reveals that the present invention as claimed achieves unexpectedly superior results compared the prior art references cited by the Examiner. Accordingly, the outstanding rejections are moot and should be withdrawn.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Craig A. McRobbie, Reg. No. 42,874, at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee

required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Declaration Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.132

Ann
MSW/CAM/gh